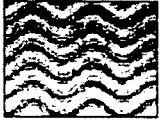


I019283-001



Nicholas  
Mastrota/DC/USEPA/US  
01/24/2008 03:44 PM

To Norman Spurling/DC/USEPA/US@EPA  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Fw: Chino State Prison bird kill incident

Norman,

Please process this email and the attachment as an incident report. It is an update to I018804-001 and I018984-001. Thanks.

Nick

----- Forwarded by Nicholas Mastrota/DC/USEPA/US on 01/24/2008 03:41 PM -----



"Stella Borucki"  
<sborucki@OSPR.DFG.CA.GOV>  
01/24/2008 02:22 PM

To Nicholas Mastrota/DC/USEPA/US@EPA  
cc  
Subject Re: Chino State Prison bird kill incident

Hi Nick,

It was positive for zinc phosphide. Here's the report.

Thanks.  
Stella

Stella Borucki  
Environmental Scientist  
Pesticide Investigations Unit  
Department of Fish and Game  
1701 Nimbus Road, Suite F  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670  
(916) 358-2954

>>> <Mastrota.Nicholas@epamail.epa.gov> 1/24/2008 9:53 AM >>>

Hello Stella,

Do you have any analytical results yet on the deaths of 11 Canada geese last June at the Chino State Prison in San Bernardino County? Was zinc phosphide confirmed as the cause? Thanks.

F. Nicholas Mastrota  
EIIIS Database Manager  
Environmental Fate and Effects Division (7507P)  
Office of Pesticide Programs  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
703-305-5247



p-2469rpt.doc

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

**PESTICIDE LABORATORY REPORT**

1701 Nimbus Road, Suite F  
Rancho Cordova, California 95670

Lab No: P-2469

Date Received: June 26, 2007

E.P. No. L-341-07-01, L-341-07-02

Sample: geese

Index: N400

PCA: H2312

To: Warden Kyle Chang  
Department of Fish and Game  
Region 6  
3602 Inland Empire Blvd, B-130  
Ontario, CA 91764

Report Date: September 18, 2007

**Remarks**

DFG Region 6 enforcement staff reported 11 dead Canada geese at Chino Prison in San Bernardino County, California. Rodenticide analysis was performed.

updates IO18742-  
001  
and IO18984-023  
and  
IO18804-001

**Background**

On June 19, 2007, DFG Region 6 staff received a report of 11 dead Canada geese, *Branta canadensis*, at Chino Prison in San Bernardino County, California. The San Bernardino County Agricultural Commissioner's Office was also contacted. The prior day, ZP Rodent Oat Bait (active ingredient: zinc phosphide) had been applied above ground in the area to treat for ground squirrels. Region 6 enforcement staff collected the geese and shipped two to the DFG Pesticide Investigations Unit in Rancho Cordova.

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**RESULTS OF EXAMINATION**

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Two geese were examined at the PIU. Both geese appeared healthy with adequate amounts of fat. No physical trauma was observed in either goose. One goose had pooled blood in the elbow joint of the right wing. Geese were submitted to the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory (CAHFSL) at UC Davis to test the stomach contents for phosphine. Liver contents were also analyzed for heavy metals.

**Conclusion**

The heavy metal screen was negative for any elevated trace metals in the livers of the geese.

The proventriculus contents of the geese contained phosphine gas. This finding is consistent with exposure to a zinc-phosphide contained bait. The presence of phosphine gas in a biological sample

is considered to be of toxicological significance at any concentration as it has acute effects at relatively low concentrations and dissipates rapidly.

The presence of zinc phosphide bait at the location where the geese were found dead, as well as the presence of phosphine in the stomachs of the geese make it very likely that their deaths resulted from zinc phosphide exposure.

Chemical analysis for the presence of phosphine was performed by Dr. Birgit Puschner of the CAHFSL. Chemical analyses for trace metals were performed by Patricia Bucknell from CDFG Water Pollution Control Laboratory and chemists at CAHFSL.

**PESTICIDE INVESTIGATIONS UNIT  
OFFICE OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE**

By \_\_\_\_\_  
**Stella Borucki**  
**Principal Investigator**

Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
**Brian Finlayson, Chief**  
**Pesticide Investigations Unit**

**Cc: George Dearmin**  
**San Bernardino County Agricultural Commissioner's Office**

<b>Chemical analysis (DFG):</b>	<b>\$112</b>
<b>Chemical analysis (UCD):</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Assessment and report:</b>	<b>350</b>
<b>Total Cost of investigation:</b>	<b>\$531</b>